

Lower Oohopee River Watershed Cluster

TMDL Implementation Plan Narrative

Candler, Tattnall, Treutlen, Emanuel and Toombs Counties, Georgia

Introduction

A segment of the Oohopee River (Little Oohopee River to GA Highway 292) and Jacks and Yam Grandy creeks have been listed as impaired water bodies on the State of Georgia's 303(d) list of impaired waters due to the presence of fecal coliform bacteria. Because of the recent drought, the water bodies have become intermittent streams. The lack of consistent water flow and the resultant high water temperatures of remaining pools of stagnant water has no doubt contributed to water quality problems of fecal coliform bacteria. There was a general concern over the quantity, scope, and limited nature of the sampling data. However, locals at the public meeting noted several factors that could possibly contribute to the problem of fecal coliform. Locals mentioned that there are several illegal dumping sites in the watershed area, and that there could possibly be some sewage runoff from several municipalities in the watershed. Locals further noted the presence of a large number of cattle located along the water bodies, and problems with beaver dams in the watershed. Locals also pointed out the presence of a large number of crossties that have been dumped in Crooked Creek, a tributary to Yam Grandy Creek. While there is a general understanding and willingness to help improve water quality, these local concerns over the true nature of the water quality issues in the Oohopee River (Little Oohopee River to GA Highway 292) and Jacks and Yam Grandy creeks will have to be addressed to obtain acceptance and support of the TMDL Implementation Plans. The TMDL Implementation Plans concentrate on educating the public about non-point sources of water pollution and encouraging the use of best management practices at the agriculture, forestry, and urban and residential levels. Reduction of bacteria entering the Oohopee River (Little Oohopee to GA Highway 292) by 98.6%, Jacks Creek by 96.8%, and Yam Grandy Creek by 73.1%, will no doubt make for better water quality regardless. A more involved and in-depth monitoring program can also help better define the issues and resolve any local concerns.

Background and Purpose

The Oohopee River (Little Oohopee River to GA Highway 292), lying in Emanuel, Treutlen, Candler, Tattnall, and Toombs counties, is in the Upper Altamaha River Basin and eventually flows into the Altamaha River. The 23-mile segment with headwaters southwest of the City of Nunez in Emanuel County is currently listed on the 303(d) list in the State of Georgia for violating the water quality standard for fecal coliform bacteria. Jacks Creek, lying in Emanuel County, is in the Upper Altamaha River Basin and eventually flows into the Oohopee River. The 9-mile segment with headwaters south of the City of Swainsboro in Emanuel County is on the 303(d) list for fecal coliform also. Yam Grandy Creek, lying in Emanuel

County, is in the Upper Altamaha River Basin and eventually flows into the Oohopee River. The 3-mile segment with headwaters in Emanuel County northwest of the City of Swainsboro, is currently listed on the 303(d) list in the State of Georgia for violating the water quality standard for fecal coliform as well.

The presence of fecal coliform bacteria in aquatic environments indicates that the water has been contaminated with the fecal material of man or other animals. At the time this occurred, the source water might have been contaminated by pathogens or disease producing bacteria or viruses, which can also exist in fecal material. Some waterborne pathogenic diseases include typhoid fever, viral and bacterial gastroenteritis and hepatitis A. The presence of fecal contamination is an indicator that a potential health risk exists for individuals exposed to this water. Fecal coliform bacteria may occur in ambient water as a result of the overflow of domestic sewage or non-point sources of human and animal waste.

The U.S. Clean Water Act requires a TMDL, or Total Maximum Daily Load, to be established for each pollutant in every body of water on the 303(d) list. A TMDL is a calculation of the maximum amount of pollutant, from both point and non-point sources, that a water body can receive and still adhere to the minimum water quality standard developed by the State of Georgia. The United States Department of Interior-Geological Survey (USGS) and the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GAEPD) gathered samples from the Oohopee River (Little Oohopee River to GA Highway 292) beginning in January of 1999 through December of 1999. The GAEPD tested samples to detect the level of fecal coliform. For the months of May through October, fecal coliform should not exceed a geometric mean of 200 counts per 100ml on at least four samples collected from a given sampling site over a 30-day period at intervals not less than 24 hours. In the months of November through April, fecal coliform should not exceed a geometric mean of 1,000 colonies per 100ml, based on at least four samples collected from a given sampling site over a 30-day period at intervals not less than 24 hours, and not to exceed a maximum of 4,000 colonies per 100ml for any sample. The data gathered indicated one exceedance of the fecal coliform level during the months of May through October geometric mean standard of 200 colonies per 100ml in the Oohopee River (Little Oohopee River to GA Highway 292). In 2000, the 23-mile segment of the Oohopee River was placed on the 303(d) list.

Also, the GAEPD tested samples to detect the level of fecal coliform in Jacks Creek from January through December of 1999. For the months of May through October, fecal coliform should not exceed 400 counts per 100ml on any given sample collected from a given sampling site. In the months of November through April, fecal coliform should not exceed 4,000 colonies per 100ml, on any given sample collected from a given sampling site. The data gathered indicated two exceedances of the fecal coliform level during the months of May through October for the 9-mile segment. Due to a lack of sufficient sampling data during the period, a more generous standard for fecal coliform was utilized for Jacks

Creek. Normally, the standard for the months for May through October is 200 colonies per 100ml. For the months of November through April, the normal standard is 1,000 colonies per 100ml. In 2000, the 9-mile segment of Jacks Creek was placed on the 303(d) list.

Likewise, the GAEPD also tested samples to detect the level of fecal coliform in Yam Grandy Creek from January through December of 1999. For the months of May through October, fecal coliform should not exceed 400 counts per 100ml on any given sample collected from a given sampling site. In the months of November through April, fecal coliform should not exceed 4,000 colonies per 100ml, on any given sample collected from a given sampling site. The data gathered indicated two exceedances of the fecal coliform level during the months of May through October for the 3-mile segment. Again, due to a lack of sufficient sampling data during the period, a more generous standard for fecal coliform was utilized for Yam Grandy Creek. Normally, the standard for the months for May through October is 200 colonies per 100ml. In 2000, Yam Grandy Creek was placed on the 303(d) list.

The purpose of the implementation plan is to identify the actions that must be taken in the future to decrease the level of fecal coliform in the Ochopee River (Little Ochopee River to GA Highway 292) by 98.6%, Jacks Creek by 96.8%, and Yam Grandy Creek by 73.1% through reducing the amount of bacteria entering the streams. This should improve the water quality and better enable the water bodies to meet the state water quality standard.

Plan Preparation

The implementation plan was developed by the Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC with the assistance of a watershed committee comprised of stakeholder representatives from the forestry industry, agriculture, the Georgia Forestry Commission, the Ochopee and Ogeechee Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Cooperative Extension Service, the Canoochee RiverKeeper, the Pine Country R C & D, the NRCS, the Emanuel, Treutlen, Candler, Tattnall, and Toombs County Commissions, three mayors, a city administrator, and the local presidents of Farm Bureau. The Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC was in charge of drafting the plan under a contract signed with the GA EPD to prepare a TMDL Implementation Plan. A preliminary copy of the plan and planning process was discussed and a presentation was given at the initial watershed committee meeting on June 24, 2003 at the Emanuel County Courthouse. Along with the watershed committee, landowners with 500 acres or more of property within two miles of either side of the creeks were invited to attend this initial committee meeting to give comments.

A meeting to educate the public and receive further stakeholder input by discussing and reviewing the draft plan took place with a presentation at the Emanuel County Courthouse in Swainsboro, GA on July 17, 2003. At this meeting, any landowners who owned 25 acres or more of property within two

miles of either side of the water bodies were sent a letter informing and inviting them to the public meeting. Nineteen persons attended this meeting. Public comments were solicited and input was placed into the plans. The plan addresses the steps that will be taken in the future to improve the water quality standard. The plan provides for monitoring and implementation actions to achieve goals submitted on the TMDLs. A draft of the final plans was mailed to the watershed stakeholder committee on August 8, 2003, for solicitation of comments before final submittal to EPD.

TMDL Data and Potential Sources of Pollution

In January 1999, the USGS and the GAEPD began a follow-up sampling and monitoring study as a part of a five-year River Basin Planning cycle (Georgia EPD). The United States Department of Interior-Geological Survey (USGS) and the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GAEPD) gathered samples from the Ochoopee River (Little Ochoopee River to GA Highway 292) beginning in January of 1999 through December of 1999. The GAEPD tested samples to detect the level of fecal coliform. For the months of May through October, fecal coliform should not exceed a geometric mean of 200 counts per 100ml on at least four samples collected from a given sampling site over a 30-day period at intervals not less than 24 hours. In the months of November through April, fecal coliform should not exceed a geometric mean of 1,000 colonies per 100ml, based on at least four samples collected from a given sampling site over a 30-day period at intervals not less than 24 hours, and not to exceed a maximum of 4,000 colonies per 100ml for any sample. The data gathered indicated one exceedance of the fecal coliform level during the months of May through October geometric mean standard of 200 colonies per 100ml in the Ochoopee River (Little Ochoopee River to GA Highway 292). In 2000, the 23-mile segment of the Ochoopee River was placed on the 303(d) list.

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The Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to GA Highway 292) watershed consists primarily of forest and cropland, with minimal areas of pasture and wetlands. Of the 499,690 acres that make up the impaired segment, 49 percent is comprised of forest. Another 28 percent is cropland. The Jacks Creek watershed consists primarily of forest and cropland as well, with minimal areas of pasture and wetlands. Of the 41,869 acres that make up the impaired segment, 54 percent is comprised of forest. Another 29 percent is cropland. The Yam Grandy Creek watershed also consists primarily of forest and cropland, with minimal areas of pasture and wetlands. Of the 39,658 acres that make up the impaired segment, 59 percent is comprised of forest. Another 23 percent is cropland. Urban non-point sources were identified by EPD as a possible primary source of the fecal coliform. One of the sources is the general storm water runoff that originates from the cities of Swainsboro, Nunez, Oak Park, and Stillmore. This is the runoff from construction, streets, and residential areas that results from rainfall. Also, there are several point sources with NPDES permits that are possible contributors to the problem of fecal coliform in these water bodies. In Yam Grandy Creek, The City of Swainsboro WPCP (#GA0020346) and the City of Swainsboro LAS (#GAU020257) have an NPDES permit. These point sources are located along Crooked Creek, which is a tributary of Yam Grandy Creek. Also located on Crooked Creek is a metals manufacturing plant that several locals cited as the cause of pollution in that stream as well as the three contracted streams as a result of discharges from the facility.

As mentioned in the introduction, a number of illegal dumping sites exist within the watershed. Many locals noted that these dump sites include items such as dirty diapers, appliances, and other household materials. Locals also pointed out a site in the watershed along Meadowlake Parkway in the City of Swainsboro where contractors were known to dump illegally. This site is located in one of the city's industrial parks and is home to a tributary of Yam Grandy Creek.

Along with the illegal dumpsites, locals believe that if there is a fecal coliform problem in the watershed, it probably is the result of runoff from the sewage from municipalities. Although the City of Swainsboro provides sewer service, the cities of Nunez, Oak Park, and Stillmore do not. Due to the sizable population within the watershed, and the presence of numerous hunting and fishing cabins along the Ohoopsee River, septic tanks are a likely issue needing attention. Along with

the municipalities, locals believe that there is some runoff from Crider Poultry as in Stillmore as well.

Locals at the public meeting pointed out that there are a large number of cattle located throughout the watershed. They felt that some runoff from the cattle operations could be a possible non-point source of pollution.

While not frequently mentioned, there was a problem involving the dumping of untreated septage without a permit on farmland north of the City of Oak Park. The issue is currently in the process of being resolved, but its effects on the surrounding land and nearby stream is unclear.

Locals also mentioned the large number of beaver dams in the watershed, especially in Jacks Creek. As mentioned in the introduction, the erection by beavers of large dams has been a continuous problem. In addition, the presence of the beavers also raises the possibility of an additional contributor of non-point source pollution. The beaver dams tend to aggravate the situation by further restricting the stream's ability to flow, thus allowing fecal coliform bacteria to grow on top of one another in the isolated pools of water that form as a result of the dams.

Finally, locals pointed out that there were approximately 100 old cross ties that were dumped into Crooked Creek, a tributary to Yam Grandy Creek. According to the locals, these cross ties have been at that particular site for some time. While they are not a direct contributor to the problem of fecal coliform, they could possibly contribute indirectly by damming up the creek, thus causing fecal bacteria to grow.

Regulatory and Voluntary Measures: Existing and Future

Septic tank maintenance ordinances are an effective way to curtail urban and residential runoff. In Treutlen, Emanuel, Candler, Tattnall, and Toombs counties, such ordinances are not in effect, though septic tank installations are regulated. It is important that future septic tank regulations, particularly relating to post-construction maintenance, be implemented at the local level. Future use of residential BMPs should also be explored as a practical means of limiting residential runoff. The local Cooperative Extension office can help individual homeowners assess and utilize BMPs through its Home*A*Syst Program.

Public education measures, beginning with the TMDL Implementation Plans and continuing in the future concerning Best Management Practices, are an efficient way to reach the local citizenry. Agriculture BMPs include, but are not limited to, the use of a waste storage structure, conservation tillage, waste storage pond, diversion, fencing, filter strips, stock trails/walkways, stream/shoreline protection, nutrient management, and well protection. Farmers utilize some of the agriculture BMPs currently; however, many do not practice them, and some do not know how to define a BMP. The NRCS and the Pine Country RC&D continue to work

with farmers by educating them and providing them with the proper resources/information to enable them to install current and future BMPs. Cooperative Extension can also provide individually tailored assistance with BMPs through its Farm*A*Syst Program.

The use of forestry BMPs are becoming more prevalent, however, some landowners continue to ignore forestry BMPs. The Georgia Forestry Commission has and continues to make a conscious effort to educate and monitor BMPs by aerial surveillance. Some forestry BMP categories include, but are not limited to, harvesting in SMZ's, mechanical site preparation, chemical site preparation, fertilization, firebreaks, skid trail stream crossings and road crossings, and logging roads. The State Implementation Committee of the forest industry's Sustainable Forestry Initiative can lend valuable support/assistance. It is unlikely that forestry contributes to any fecal coliform problems. To the contrary, more forested buffers of streams could help prevent such contamination.

Currently, the City of Swainsboro has planning and zoning regulations in place within their city limits. However, the cities of Oak Park, Nunez, and Stillmore currently do not have planning and zoning regulations within their city limits. Treutlen, Emanuel, Toombs, Candler, and Tattnall counties currently do not have any planning and zoning regulations in the unincorporated areas as well. Treutlen, Emanuel, Candler, Tattnall, and Toombs counties enforce erosion and sedimentation control measures at the state level. However, there are no erosion and sedimentation measures enforced at the local level.

The implementation of Land Use Management Regulations is planned in the future on a county-by-county basis. The regulations will be put into place as the necessary support at the local level is obtained. They will be enforced by local governments, GA DNR, GA Department of Human Resources, GA Department of Community Affairs, and the GA Forestry Commission. The regulations would utilize state-mandated environmental planning criteria, local planning and zoning ordinances, BMPs for agriculture and forestry, erosion and sedimentation measures, and septic tank permitting to manage runoff and development. The Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC will provide technical assistance in developing a "zoning lite" ordinance to encourage local governments to implement planning and zoning measures.

Storm Water Management Regulations are planned for implementation in the future as well on a county-by-county basis. The new regulations will be put into effect as requisite local support is obtained, and the GA DNR, GA EPD, and local governments will enforce them. The regulations would utilize local ordinance enforcement to produce better erosion and sedimentation control at the time of construction. These regulations could possibly require post-construction erosion and sedimentation control and possibly utilize passive design elements in new developments and stream buffers to prevent runoff.

A Cooperative Monitoring Program is needed for future implementation. The GA DNR, GA EPD, local governments, and possibly local volunteers would conduct the program. Additional regular monitoring of the creeks are needed to better define pollutant sources. The program could also consist of a scientific study of issues such as fecal coliform levels in slow-moving blackwater streams, and possibly address the issue of the standards themselves. It also could possibly seek funding and cooperation for watershed assessments, including possible model demonstration assessments for small watersheds, and develop a program for implementation assessments for the watershed.

An implementation of an Adopt-A-Stream program is needed. The program would be utilized through various organizations and groups throughout the watershed. The program will provide updates on current stream conditions in the future as the requisite funding and support are developed.

Schedule for Implementation

BMPs for the agriculture and forestry community will be promoted beginning in 2003 and continuing. The schedule for implementing the Land Use Management Regulations and the Storm Water Management Regulations is on a county-by-county basis in the near future, as local support is obtained. It would be helpful if the Cooperative Monitoring Program could be implemented in 2004, pending funding. An Adopt-A-Stream Program would also be helpful if implemented by 2004, pending local support and funding.

Monitoring Plan

The GA Forestry Commission will continue to do aerial and land surveillance of the watershed area. It is possible for Adopt-A-Stream monitoring to begin to take place in the future, as the requisite funding and support are developed.

Funding

The GA Forestry Commission will continue to do aerial and land surveillance of the watershed area. Also, the Georgia Forestry Commission will continue to administer Best Management Practices Assurance Examinations. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is funding a program called "Partners for Wildlife," which is sponsored through the GA Soil and Conservation Service. Also, some funding will originate from the USDA through the Farm Service Agency and the Natural Resource Conservation Service. The UGA Cooperative Extension Service is funding two programs; Home*A*Syst and Farm*A*Syst, which are enacted by the local agriculture extension agent offices. Finally, the State Implementation Committee (SFI) is funding a program called "Sustainable Forestry Initiative." The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is funding a program called the General Grant Challenge Program. The Georgia Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Division has produced two booklets that are available to the public, "Small Game Management in Georgia" and "Beaver Management and

Control in Georgia.” Additional state and federal funding is likely needed to establish more in-depth monitoring.

Criteria to Determine Progress

The criteria to determine whether progress toward attainment is being made will be shown through the results of future monitoring by any improved fecal coliform levels through reducing the amount of bacterial loading in the water bodies.

Conclusion

Improved future utilization and implementation of best management practices at the agricultural, residential, and urban levels will provide substantial progress in reducing the levels of fecal coliform bacteria in the water bodies. The examination of potential non-point sources would be helpful. A more in-depth monitoring program would better determine the true extent of the problems. Any action(s) taken as a result of such an examination would further assist in producing progress. We anticipate the removal of the Ochopee River (Little Ochopee River to GA Highway 292), Jacks and Yam Grandy creeks from the State of Georgia’s 303(d) list.

STATE OF GEORGIA

TMDL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

WATERSHED APPROACH

Altamaha River Basin

Local Watershed Governments

Heart of Georgia – Altamaha RDC

Emanuel County
 Tattnall County
 Toombs County
 Treutlen County
 City of Tarrytown
 City of Soperton
 City of Lyons
 City of Vidalia

TMDL Implementation Plans are platforms for establishing a course of actions to restore the quality of impaired water bodies in a watershed. They are intended as a continuing process that may be revised as new conditions and information warrant. Procedures will be developed to track and evaluate the implementation of the management practices and activities identified in the plans. Once restored, appropriate management practices and activities will be continued to maintain the water bodies.

This Implementation Plan addresses an action plan, education/outreach activities, stakeholders, pollutant sources, and potential funding sources affecting the sub-basin. In addition, the Plan describes (a) regulatory and voluntary practices/control actions (*management measures*) to reduce target pollutants, (b) milestone schedules to show the development of the management measures (*measurable milestones*), (c) a monitoring plan to determine the efficiency of the management measures and measurable milestones, and (d) criteria to determine whether substantial progress is being made towards reducing pollutants in impaired waterbodies. The overall goal of the Plan is to define a set of actions that will help achieve water quality standards in the state of Georgia. Following this section is information regarding individual segments.

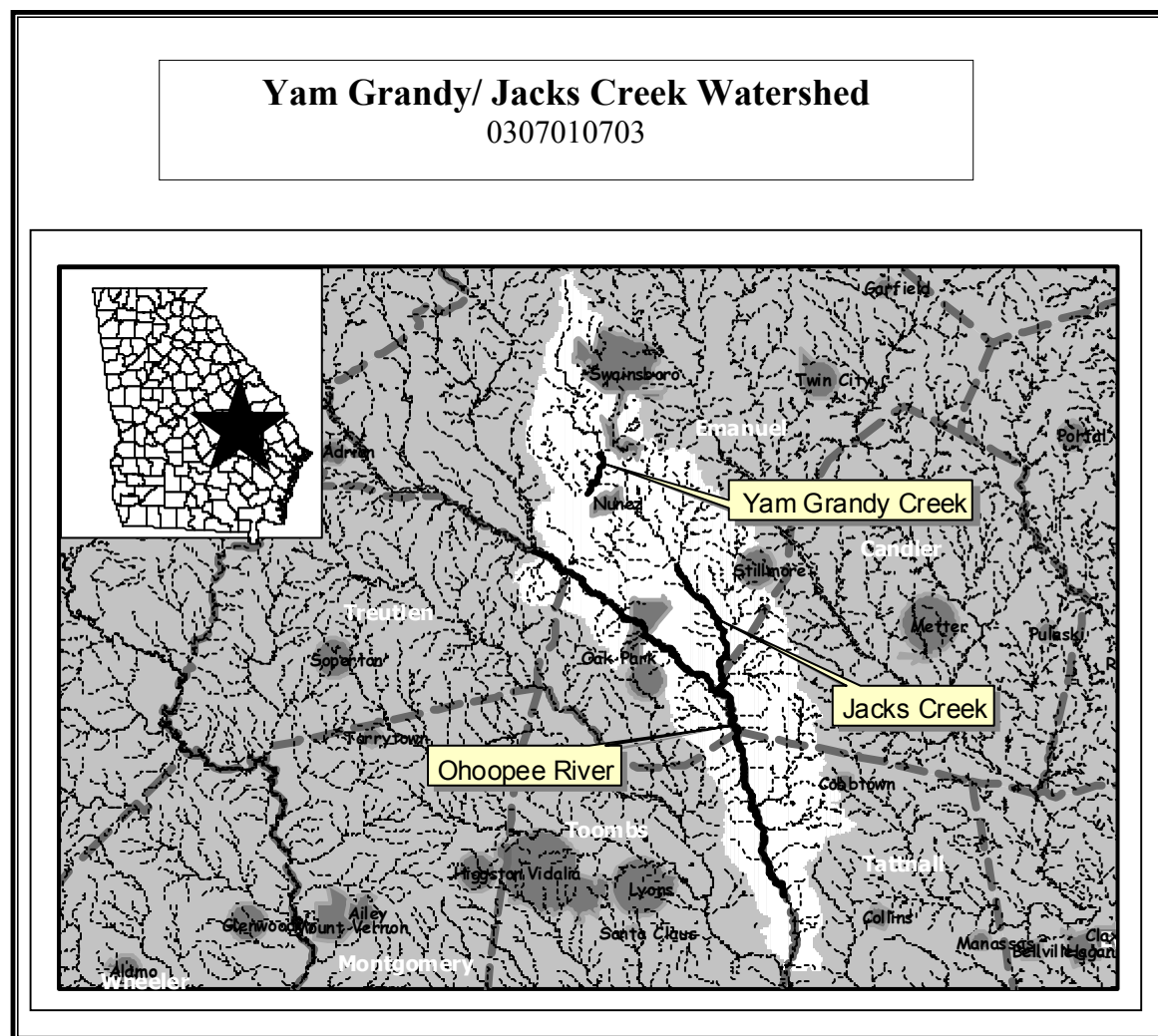


FIGURE 1

Impaired Waterbody*	Impaired Stream Location	Impairment
1. Jacks Creek	U.S. Highway 1 to Ochopee River	Fecal Coliform
2. Yam Grandy Creek	Downstream of Crooked Creek	Fecal Coliform
3. Ochopee River	Little Ochopee River to GA Highway 292	Fecal Coliform

*These Waterbody Numbers are referenced throughout the Implementation Plan.

POLLUTANT:	SOURCE:	EFFECT:	WHAT CAN I DO?	
			At Home: Community, School	At Work: Business, Government
<input type="checkbox"/> Dissolved Oxygen (DO)	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Habitat	Get Involved in Adopt-A-Stream Public Education Use Proper BMPs Check Septic System	Develop Zoning Ordinances Dispose of Harmful Chemicals Properly
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fecal Coliform (FC)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sediment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Drinking Water		
<input type="checkbox"/> Metals	<input type="checkbox"/> Forestry	<input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fish Consumption Guidelines (FCG)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Please List)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please List)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please List)	Fishing		

INFORMATION/EDUCATION/OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Responsible Org. Or Entity	Description	Impacted Waterbodies*	Target Audience	Anticipated Dates (MM/YY)
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	TMDL Presentation at the Emanuel County Courthouse for the committee	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	Local Governments, Agriculture Organizations, Georgia Forestry Commission, Forestry Industries, Ohoopsee Soil and Water Conservation District, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Pine County RC & D, Canoochee RiverKeeper County Officials	June 24, 2003 July 1, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	TMDL Presentation at Treutlen County Commissioners Meeting	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	County Officials	July 7, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	TMDL Presentation at Tattnall County Commissioners Meeting	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	General Public	July 11, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	A Press Release to The Advance Progress concerning Public Meeting (July 11, 2003)	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	General Public	July 11, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	A Press Release to The Tattnall Journal concerning Public Meeting (July 11, 2003)	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	General Public	July 11, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	A Press Release to The Metter Advertiser concerning Public Meeting (July 11, 2003)	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	General Public	July 11, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	A Press Release to The Glennville Sentinel concerning Public Meeting (July 11, 2003)	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	General Public	July 11, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	A Press Release to The Forest Blade concerning Public Meeting (July 11, 2003)	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	General Public	July 14, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	A Public Service Announcement to The Radio Group in Swainsboro, GA	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	General Public	July 14, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	A Public Service Announcement to Vidalia Communications in Vidalia, GA	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	General Public	July 14, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	A Public Service Announcement to WLYU FM in Lyons, GA	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	General Public	July 14, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	A Public Service Announcement to WBMZ FM in Metter, GA	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	General Public	July 14, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	TMDL Presentation at City of Stillmore City Council Meeting	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	City Officials	July 14, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	TMDL Presentation for Public Meeting at the Toombs County Courthouse in Lyons, GA	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	Landowners with 25 Acres or more within 2 miles on either side of Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks City Officials	July 17, 2003 July 21, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	TMDL Presentation at City of Soperton City Council Meeting	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	City Officials	August 18, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	TMDL Presentation at City of Swainsboro City Council Meeting	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	County Officials	September 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	TMDL Presentation at Emanuel County Commissioners Meeting	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	City Officials	September, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	TMDL Presentation at City of Nunez City Council Meeting	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	City Officials	October, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	TMDL Presentation at City of Adrian City Council Meeting	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	City Officials	November, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	TMDL Presentation at City of Oak Park City Council Meeting	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	County Officials	December, 2003
Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC	TMDL Presentation at Candler County Commissioners Meeting	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks		

STAKEHOLDERS

EPD encourages public involvement and the active participation of stakeholders in the process of improving water quality. Stakeholders can provide valuable information and data regarding their community and the impaired water bodies and can provide insight and/or implement management measures.

List of local governments, agricultural organizations or significant landholders, commercial forestry organizations, businesses and industries, and local organizations including environmental groups and individuals with a major interest in this watershed.

Name/Organization	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	E-Mail
Emanuel County Cooperative Ext. Service	129 North Anderson Drive	Swainsboro	GA	30401	(478)-237-1226	
Emanuel County Commissioners	PO Box 787	Swainsboro	GA	30401	(478)-237-3881	
Natural Resource Conservation Service	145 N. Anderson Drive	Swainsboro	GA	30401	(912)-237-8866	
Rayonier Southeast Forest Products	PO Box 626	Jesup	GA	31598	(912)-530-8471	
Pine Country RC & D	105 Martin Luther King JR Drive	Soperton	GA	30457	(912)-529-6652	
International Paper	RT 2 Box 2	Soperton	GA	30457	(912)-529-3447	
Canoochee RiverKeeper	PO Box 263	Swainsboro	GA	30401	(478)-289-6523	
Emanuel County Farm Bureau	PO Box 450	Swainsboro	GA	30401	N/A	
Toombs County Commissioners	100 Courthouse Square	Lyons	GA	30436	(912)-526-3311	
GA Forestry Commission	1891 GA Highway 178	Lyons	GA	30436	(912)-526-8680	
Toombs County Cooperative Extension Service	200 Courthouse Square, Suite 1	Lyons	GA	30436	(912)-526-3101	
Ohoopee Soil and Water Conservation District	PO Box L	Vidalia	GA	30474	N/A	
Treutlen County Cooperative Ext. Service	206 Third Street	Soperton	GA	30457	(912)-529-3766	
Natural Resource Conservation Service	303 Fulton Street	Mount Vernon	GA	30445	(912)-583-4432	
GA Forestry Commission	105 Martin Luther King JR Drive	Soperton	GA	30457	(912)-529-6652	
Ohoopee Soil and Water Conservation District	PO Box 86	Soperton	GA	30457	N/A	
Treutlen County Commissioners	PO Box 79	Soperton	GA	30457	(912)-529-3664	
Natural Resource Conservation Service	PO Box 308	Reidsville	GA	30453		
Candler County Commissioners	705 North Lewis Street	Metter	GA	30439	(912)-685-2835	
Tattnall County Commissioners	114 Brazell Street	Reidsville	GA	30453	(912)-557-4335	
Ogeechee Soil and Water Conservation District	RT 2 Box 13	Collins	GA	30421	N/A	
Tattnall County Cooperative Ext. Service	PO Box 580	Reidsville	GA	30453	(912)-557-6724	
Candler County Cooperative Ext. Service	316 West Broad Street	Metter	GA	30439	(912)-685-2408	
Ohoopee Soil and Water Conservation District	618 Bird Flanders Road	Swainsboro	GA	30401	N/A	
Ogeechee Soil and Water Conservation District	RT 2 Box 35	Metter	GA	30439	N/A	
City of Nunez	PO Box 175	Nunez	GA	30448	(478)-237-3260	
City of Oak Park	PO Box 37	Oak Park	GA	30401	(912)-578-5020	
City of Stillmore	PO Box 70	Stillmore	GA	30464	(912)-562-3529	
City of Swainsboro	PO Box 600	Swainsboro	GA	30401	(478)-237-7025	

WATER BODIES/STREAMS COVERED IN THIS PLAN:

These impaired streams are located in the same sub-basin identified by a HUC10 code. Most of the information contained in this section comes from the 303(d) list and has been completed by employees of the EPD Water Protection Branch. Data that placed stream on 303(d) list will be provided upon request.

Waterbody Name #1	Location	Miles/Area Impacted	Use Classification	Partially Supporting/ Not Supporting (PS/NS)
Jacks Creek	U.S. Highway 1 to Ohoopsee River	9	Fishing	NS
Primary County	Secondary County	Second RDC	Source (Point/ Nonpoint)	
Emanuel			Nonpoint	
Pollutants	Water Quality Standards	Required Reduction	TMDL ID	Date TMDL Established
Fecal Coliform	1000/100 ml (geometric mean Nov. – April) 200/100 ml (geometric mean May – Oct.)	96.8 %		January 2002

Waterbody Name #2	Location	Miles/Area Impacted	Use Classification	Partially Supporting/ Not Supporting (PS/NS)
Yam Grandy Creek	Downstream of Crooked Creek	3	Fishing	NS
Primary County	Secondary County	Second RDC	Source (Point/ Nonpoint)	
Emanuel			Nonpoint	
Pollutants	Water Quality Standards	Required Reduction	TMDL ID	Date TMDL Established
Fecal Coliform	1000/100 ml (geometric mean Nov. – April) 200/100 ml (geometric mean May – Oct.)	73.1 %		January 2002

Waterbody Name #3	Location	Miles/Area Impacted	Use Classification	Partially Supporting/ Not Supporting (PS/NS)
Ohoopsee River	Little Ohoopsee River to GA Highway 292	23	Fishing	PS
Primary County	Secondary County	Second RDC	Source (Point/ Nonpoint)	
Emanuel	Candler, Tattnall, Toombs, Treutlen		Nonpoint	
Pollutants	Water Quality Standards	Required Reduction	TMDL ID	Date TMDL Established
Fecal Coliform	1000/100 ml (geometric mean Nov. – April) 200/100 ml (geometric mean May – Oct.)	98.6 %		January 2002

POLLUTANT SOURCES

It is important to recognize the potential source(s) causing water quality impairment. Each source must be controlled to comply with target TMDL/Load Allocations for each pollutant. Included is a description of how the sources contribute to the impairment and the waterbody that is impaired.

List of major nonpoint source categories and sub-categories or individual sources (Urban Runoff, Agriculture, Forestry, Municipal Sewage Treatment Plant)

Pollutant	Sources of Pollutants	Description of Contribution To Impairment	Impacted Waterbodies*
Fecal Coliform	Agriculture	Possible introduction of animal waste from upslope practices and sediment from storm water runoff when BMPs are not followed	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks
Fecal Coliform	Residential	Possible introduction of discharges resulting from septic tank runoff and littering from nearby residential areas, including the cities of Swainsboro (Jacks and Yam Grandy creeks), Nunez (Jacks and Yam Grandy creeks), Oak Park (Lower Ohoopsee River-Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), and Stillmore (Jacks Creek)	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks
Fecal Coliform	Municipal (Storm water runoff)	Possible introduction of storm water runoff from municipal areas (cities of Swainsboro, Nunez, Stillmore and Oak Park)	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks
Fecal Coliform	Urban	Possible introduction of water runoff from urban development in and near cities of Swainsboro, Nunez, Stillmore and Oak Park	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks
Fecal Coliform	Municipal (Wastewater)	Possible introduction of wastewater discharges from City of Swainsboro WPCP (#GA0020346) and the City of Swainsboro LAS (#GAU020257)	Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks

MANAGEMENT MEASURES, MEASURABLE MILESTONES AND SCHEDULE

(i.e. Local codes and ordinances, Erosion and Sedimentation Control, Storm Water Management, Local water resource monitoring)

The following table lists management measures that have been or will be implemented to achieve water quality standards and the load reductions established in the TMDL. The management measures, including regulatory or voluntary actions or other controls by governments or individuals, specifically apply to the pollutant and the waterbody for which the TMDL was written. A description is provided of how these management measures are/will be accomplished through reliable and effective delivery mechanisms, and how these management measures are/will help achieve the target TMDL. Included is the source of the pollutant, anticipated/past effectiveness of the management measure (very effective, somewhat effective, not effective), the current status (i.e. enforced, in-progress, planning), and measurable milestones and schedule. Milestones are used to measure progress in attaining water quality standards and to determine whether management measures are being implemented.

Regulation/Ordinance or Management Measure	Responsible Government, Organization or Entity	Description	Enacted/Projected Date	Status	Regulatory/Voluntary
Georgia Water Quality Control Act (OCGA 12-5-20)	Georgia DNR, EPD	Makes it unlawful to discharge excessive pollutants into waters of the state in amounts harmful to public health, safety or welfare, animals, or the physical destruction of stream habitat	1964	Current	Regulatory

Pollutant(s) Affected	Sources of Pollutant(s)	Impacted Waterbodies*	Anticipated or Past Effectiveness
Fecal Coliform	Agriculture, Residential, Municipal	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	Effective in point source pollution in dealing with local governments and industry/ Limited effectiveness in dealing with non-point sources

Measurable Milestones	Schedule		Comments
	Start	End	
Land Use Application System Permits NPDES Permits	1964	Ongoing	Work with local governments and others to increase monitoring of Land Use Application System Permits and NPDES Permits/City of Swainsboro WPCP NPDES Permit #GA0020346 and City of Swainsboro LAS Permit #GAU020257

Regulation/Ordinance or Management Measure	Responsible Government, Organization or Entity	Description	Enacted/ Projected Date	Status	Regulatory /Voluntary
Agricultural BMPs	Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Service, Georgia Department of Agriculture	Leads effort in agricultural water quality program, develops agricultural BMP educational and monitoring efforts	1987	Current	Voluntary

Pollutant(s) Affected	Sources of Pollutant(s)	Impacted Waterbodies*	Anticipated or Past Effectiveness
Fecal Coliform	Pesticide management, animal facility runoff, irrigation water management	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	Utilization of BMPs has been found to be effective in controlling runoff and other contaminants from farming practices

Measurable Milestones	Schedule		Comments
	Start	End	
Waste Storage Structure, Conservation Tillage, Waste Storage Pond, Diversion, Fencing, Field Borders, Filter Strips, Stock Trails/Walkways, Stream/Shoreline Protection, Nutrient Management, Well Protection, Land Use Application System Permits and NPDES Permits	1987	Ongoing	Additional BMPs possible depending on results of future monitoring/ Work with local governments and others to increase monitoring of Land Use Application System Permits and NPDES Permits

Regulation/Ordinance or Management Measure	Responsible Government, Organization or Entity	Description	Enacted/ Projected Date	Status	Regulatory /Voluntary
Nutrient Application Plan	Natural Resource Conservation Service	Leads effort in agricultural water quality by developing plans to control nutrient runoff	2000	Current	Voluntary

Pollutant(s) Affected	Sources of Pollutant(s)	Impacted Waterbodies*	Anticipated or Past Effectiveness
Fecal Coliform	Pesticide management, irrigation water management	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	Effective in the initial stages of the program's beginning if plans are followed properly

Measurable Milestones	Schedule		Comments
	Start	End	
Increase the number of farming establishments utilizing nutrient application plans to limit nutrient runoff	2000	Ongoing	Plans will continue to be effective at the local level if they continue to be implemented by more and more farming establishments

Regulation/Ordinance or Management Measure	Responsible Government, Organization or Entity	Description	Enacted/ Projected Date	Status	Regulatory /Voluntary
Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)	Agriculture Extension Service, Department of Natural Resources	Leads effort in agricultural water quality by developing plans to control animal waste runoff	2001	Current	Regulatory

Pollutant(s) Affected	Sources of Pollutant(s)	Impacted Waterbodies*	Anticipated or Past Effectiveness
Fecal Coliform	Animal facility runoff	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	Effective in the initial stages of the program's beginning if the plans are carried out properly

Measurable Milestones	Schedule		Comments
	Start	End	
Increase the number of farming establishments implementing plans/Encourage increased compliance with plan requirements	2001	Ongoing	Plans will continue to be effective at the local level if they continue to be implemented by more and more farming establishments

Regulation/Ordinance or Management Measure	Responsible Government, Organization or Entity	Description	Enacted/ Projected Date	Status	Regulatory /Voluntary
Georgia Erosion and Sedimentation Control Act (OCGA 12-7-1)	Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division and Local Governments	Authorizes local governments to adopt a comprehensive ordinance governing land-disturbing activities within local planning and zoning jurisdictions and require the use of BMPs	Amended 2000	Current	Regulatory

Pollutant(s) Affected	Sources of Pollutant(s)	Impacted Waterbodies*	Anticipated or Past Effectiveness
Fecal Coliform	Agricultural, Residential, Municipal	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	Effectiveness is minimal due to a lack of local enforcement of erosion and sedimentation control measures

Measurable Milestones	Schedule		Comments
	Start	End	
Local erosion and sedimentation control measures	2003	Ongoing	Work with local governments to obtain a greater enforcement of erosion and sedimentation control measures at the local level

Regulation/Ordinance or Management Measure	Responsible Government, Organization or Entity	Description	Enacted/ Projected Date	Status	Regulatory /Voluntary
Georgia Planning Act (OCGA 12-2-8)	Georgia Department of Natural Resources and Local Governments	Authorized DCA to develop minimum planning standards and procedures that local government planning and zoning jurisdictions could adopt and enforce pertaining to the protection of river corridors, mountains, water supply watersheds, groundwater recharge areas, and wetlands	1989	Current	Regulatory

Pollutant(s) Affected	Sources of Pollutant(s)	Impacted Waterbodies*	Anticipated or Past Effectiveness
Fecal Coliform	Agricultural, Residential, Municipal	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	Effectiveness is minimal because of lack of land use management regulations at the local level

Measurable Milestones	Schedule		Comments
	Start	End	
Land Use Management Regulations	2003	Ongoing	Need to work with local governments to establish land use management regulations and other regulations as appropriate/ Need to work with local governments in enforcing DNR's Part 5 Environmental Planning criteria to better protect local streams

Management Measure	Responsible Government, Organization or Entity	Description	Enacted/ Projected Date	Status	Regulatory /Voluntary
Local Septic Tank Permit Ordinance	Georgia Department of Human Resources and Local Governments	Authorizes the regulation of septic tanks, including placement, installation and maintenance	1969	Current	Regulatory

Pollutant(s) Affected	Sources of Pollutant(s)	Impacted Waterbodies*	Anticipated or Past Effectiveness
Fecal Coliform	Residential	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	Effective at point of construction and poor at point of post-construction follow up maintenance

Measurable Milestones	Schedule		Comments
	Start	End	
Continuous updating of health inspector manual to upgrade current standards	1969	Ongoing	Better enforcement at local level needed

Regulation/Ordinance or Management Measure	Responsible Government, Organization or Entity	Description	Enacted/ Projected Date	Status	Regulatory /Voluntary
Land Use Management Regulations	Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Development Center, Local Governments, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Georgia Department of Human Resources, Georgia Department of Community Affairs, Georgia Forestry Commission	Utilize state-mandated environmental planning criteria, local planning and zoning ordinances, BMPs for agriculture and forestry, and septic tank permitting to manage runoff and development, RDC will provide technical assistance in developing a model "zoning-lite" ordinance to encourage local governments to implement planning and zoning measures	Adopted on a County-by-County basis	Planned	Regulatory

Pollutant(s) Affected	Sources of Pollutant(s)	Impacted Waterbodies*	Anticipated or Past Effectiveness
Fecal Coliform	Agricultural, Residential, Municipal	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	Not very effective due to lack of Land Use Regulations on county-wide level

Measurable Milestones	Schedule		Comments
	Start	End	
Establishment of County-wide Land Use Regulations	2008	Ongoing	There is a need to work with local governments to adopt Land Use Regulations

Regulation/Ordinance or Management Measure	Responsible Government, Organization or Entity	Description	Enacted/Projected Date	Status	Regulatory /Voluntary
Cooperative Monitoring Program	Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Georgia Environmental Protection Division, Local Governments, Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Development Center	Seek a scientific study of issues such as natural dissolved oxygen levels in slow-moving streams, could seek funding/cooperation for watershed assessments including possible model demonstration assessments for small watersheds, develop a program for implementation assessments for the Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster (includes Lower Ohoopsee River ((Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292)), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks)		Planned	Voluntary

Pollutant(s) Affected	Sources of Pollutant(s)	Impacted Waterbodies*	Anticipated or Past Effectiveness
Fecal Coliform	Agricultural, Residential, Municipal	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	Anticipated effectiveness is significant because of more frequent monitoring which will produce better and more frequent data

Measurable Milestones	Schedule		Comments
	Start	End	
Implementation of Adopt-A-Stream programs with various organizations for purposes of more sampling/Additional monitoring to increase the amount of data collected	2003	Ongoing	Utilize monitoring programs of Georgia Forestry Commission, NRCS, Adopt-A-Stream to gather updated sampling data on a more frequent basis

Regulation/Ordinance or Management Measure	Responsible Government, Organization or Entity	Description	Enacted/ Projected Date	Status	Regulatory /Voluntary
Environmental Code Enforcement	Local Governments, Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division	Utilize local ordinances to ensure greater compliance with state environmental codes at the local level	2008	Planned	Regulatory

Pollutant(s) Affected	Sources of Pollutant(s)	Impacted Waterbodies*	Anticipated or Past Effectiveness
Fecal Coliform	Residential	Lower Ohoopee River (Little Ohoopee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	Limited effectiveness due to lack of enforcement at county-wide level

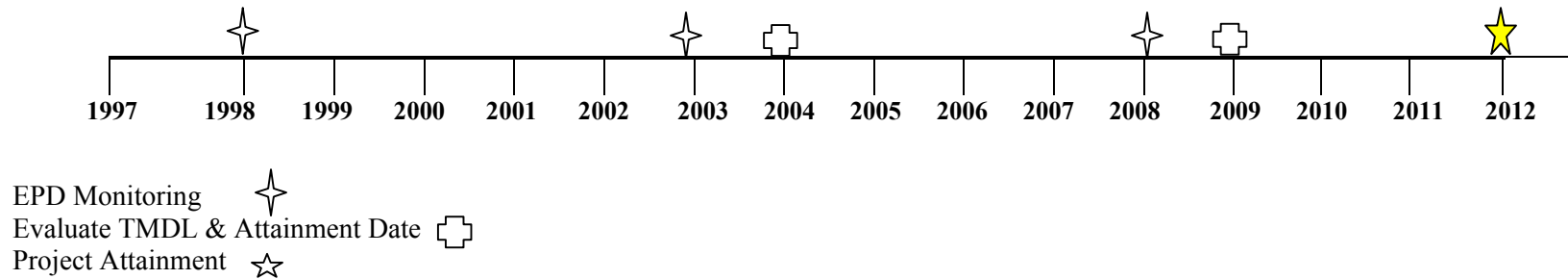
Measurable Milestones	Schedule		Comments
	Start	End	
Establishment of code enforcement program	2008	Ongoing	Greater enforcement of state standards at the local level could help to reduce the amount of man made wastes entering into local streams

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES The identification and discussion of dedicated funding is important in determining the economic feasibility of the above-mentioned management measures.

Funding Source	Responsible Authority	Status	Anticipated Funding Amount	Impacted Waterbodies*
Georgia Forestry Commission	Georgia Forestry Commission	Current	Unknown	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks
Georgia Department of Natural Resources	Environmental Protection Division	Current	\$75,000.00	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Planned	Unknown	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks
U.S. Department of Agriculture	Farm Service Agency	Planned	Unknown	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks
U.S. Department of Agriculture	Natural Resource Conservation Service	Planned	Unknown	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Service (“Partners for Wildlife” Program)	Planned	Unknown	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks
University of Georgia Extension Service	Local Cooperative Extension Service (Home*A*Syst Program)	Planned	Unknown	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks
University of Georgia Extension Service	Local Cooperative Extension Service (Farm*A*Syst Program)	Planned	Unknown	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks
State Implementation Committee	Sustainable Forestry Initiative Program	Planned	Unknown	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks
Georgia Forestry Commission	Georgia Forestry Commission (Best Management Practices Assurance Examinations)	Current	Unknown	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks
The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (General Challenge Grant Program)	Planned	Unknown	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks
Georgia Department of Natural Resources (Wildlife Resources Division)	Georgia Department of Natural Resources (Wildlife Resources Division) “Small Game Management in Georgia” & “Beaver Management and Control in Georgia” Booklets	Current	Unknown	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks

PROJECTED ATTAINMENT DATE

The projected date to attain and maintain water quality standards in this watershed is 10 years from acceptance of the TMDL Implementation Plan by EPD.



MONITORING PLAN

The purpose of this monitoring plan is to determine the effectiveness of the target TMDL and the management measures being implemented to meet water quality standards. List of previous, current or planned/proposed sampling activities or other surveys. (Monitoring data that placed stream on 303(d) list will be provided if requested.)

Name Of Regulation / Ordinance Or Management Measure	Organization	Impacted Waterbodies*	Pollutants	Purpose/Description	Time Frame		Status (Previous, Current, Proposed)
					Start	End	
1999 Study	United States Geological Survey	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292)	Fecal Coliform	To detect the levels of Fecal Coliform at the USGS Certified Station #02225270 (State Road 297 near Swainsboro, GA) & at Station #02225340 (State Road 292 near Lyons, GA)	1/99	12/99	Previous
1999 Study	United States Geological Survey	Yam Grandy Creek	Fecal Coliform	To detect the levels of Fecal Coliform at the USGS Certified Station #02225290 (County Road 198 near Nunez, GA)	1/99	12/99	Previous
1999 Study	United States Geological Survey	Jacks Creek	Fecal Coliform	To detect the levels of Fecal Coliform at the USGS Certified Station #02225318 (State Road 46 near Stillmore, GA)	1/99	12/99	Previous
Best Management Practices Monitoring	Georgia Forestry Commission	Lower Ohoopsee River (Little Ohoopsee River to Hwy. 292), Yam Grandy and Jacks creeks	Fecal Coliform	Within the watershed, can conduct monthly aerial and land reconnaissance to identify recent forestry practices, conduct BMP audit, and make recommendations for remediation if problems are found		On-going	Current

CRITERIA TO DETERMINE WHETHER SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IS BEING MADE

The following set of criteria will be used to determine whether any substantial progress is being made towards reducing pollutants in impaired waterbodies and attaining water quality standards. Discussion on each criteria is recorded in the space provided. Additional relevant criteria are presented in comments.

Percent of concentration or load change (monitoring program)

Install BMPs and reduce the amount of fecal coliform by 20% by 2012

If monitoring results show that it is unlikely that the TMDL will be adequate to meet water quality standards, revision of the TMDL may be necessary.

- Categorical change in classification of the stream (delisting the stream is the goal)

Classification is proposed to remain fishing/ Delist from 303(d) list

- Regulatory controls or activities installed (ordinances, laws)

Work with local governments and individuals to install Erosion and Sedimentation Controls, Land Use Management Regulations (Development Regulations such as stream buffers, limited impervious cover, porous pavement materials, limited clearing, grading, and disturbance); BMPs, Storm Water Management, Code Enforcement, etc. to help reduce runoff and minimize land disturbance.

- Best management practices installed (agricultural, forestry, urban)

Agriculture – (Waste Storage Facilities, Conservation Tillage, Waste Storage Pond, Diversion, Fencing, Field Borders, Filter Strips, Stock Trails/Walkways)

COMMENTS

Attachments

- Appendix A – Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan Committee Meeting Invitation List (June 24, 2003)
- Appendix B – Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan List of Major Landowners Invited to Committee Meeting (June 24, 2003) (Toombs, Treutlen, Tattnall, Candler, and Emanuel counties)
- Appendix C – Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan Committee and Major Landowners Meeting Sign-in Sheet (June 24, 2003)
- Appendix D – Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan Committee and Major Landowners Meeting Handout (June 24, 2003)
- Appendix E – Stakeholder Notification List for Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan Public Meeting (July 17, 2003) (Toombs, Treutlen, Tattnall, Candler, and Emanuel counties)
- Appendix F – Press Release for Public Meeting for Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan in The Advance-Progress (July 11, 2003)
- Appendix G – Press Release for Public Meeting for Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan in The Tattnall Journal (July 11, 2003)
- Appendix H – Press Release for Public Meeting for Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan in The Forest Blade (July 11, 2003)
- Appendix I – Press Release for Public Meeting for Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan in The Metter Advertiser (July 11, 2003)
- Appendix J – Press Release for Public Meeting for Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan in The Glennville Sentinel (July 11, 2003)
- Appendix K – Public Service Announcement concerning Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan given to Vidalia Communications (July 14-17, 2003)
- Appendix L – Public Service Announcement concerning Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan given to WLYU (100.9 FM) in Lyons, GA (July 14-17, 2003)
- Appendix M – Public Service Announcement concerning Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan given to The Radio Group in Swainsboro, GA (July 14-17, 2003)
- Appendix N – Public Service Announcement concerning Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan given to (WBMZ FM) in Metter, GA (July 14-17, 2003)
- Appendix O – Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan Public Meeting Sign-in Sheet (July 17, 2003)
- Appendix P – Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan Public Meeting Handout (July 17, 2003)
- Appendix Q – Memo to Treutlen Co. Commissioners to be placed in the July 1st, 2003 Meeting Agenda Packet (June 13, 2003)
- Appendix R – Memo to Tattnall Co. Commissioners to be placed in the July 7th, 2003 Meeting Agenda Packet (June 12, 2003)
- Appendix S – Memo to City of Stillmore City Council to be placed in the July 14th, 2003 Meeting Agenda Packet (June 12, 2003)
- Appendix T – Memo to City of Soperton City Council to be placed in the July 21st, 2003 Meeting Agenda Packet (June 13, 2003)
- Appendix U – Memo to City of Swainsboro City Council to be placed in the August 18th, 2003 Meeting Agenda Packet (July 15, 2003)
- Appendix V – Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan Handout for Treutlen and Tattnall County Commissioners meetings and Cities of Stillmore, Soperton, and Swainsboro City Council Meetings
- Appendix W – Lower Ohoopsee River Watershed Cluster Proposed TMDL Implementation Plan Committee Review Memo (August 8, 2003)

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**Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources,
State of Georgia.**

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!